

"Guibourd House"  
4th & Merchant Street,  
Ste. Genevieve, Mo.

HABS No. Mo. 1109

HABS  
Mo.

97-541354

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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ADDENDUMS  
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

W.T. Trueblood, District Officer,  
1520 Chemical Building, St. Louis, Mo.

Eugene L. Fleitsch, Deputy District Officer,  
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
DISTRICT OF MISSOURI ( NO. 1.)

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1169  
PROJECT NO. MO 1169.

"Guibourd House"

This house located in Ste. Genevieve, Missouri, on 4th & Market Streets, was the home of Jacques Dubreuil Guilbourd who emigrated from San Domingo, and was occupied by members of that family for three generations.

Jacques Dubreuil Guilbourd was the last Commandant of Ste. Genevieve.

He married one of the Barbeus girls and was the brother-in-law of Jean Baptiste Valle.

This house was built in the year 1784 and now belongs to Jules F. Valle.

It is a one story and attic, rectangular frame house of log construction covered with weatherboards. Peaked gable roof. Wide veranda across front under main roof. Simple detail. Well preserved

Reference: Fair Play.

EUGENE L. PLEITSCH.

EW 6/3/57

Addendum to  
Jacques Dubreuil Guibourd House  
Fourth and Merchant Streets  
Ste. Genevieve  
Ste. Genevieve County  
Missouri

HABS No. MO-1109

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service

Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

Addendum to  
Jacques Dubreuil Guibourd House  
Northwest corner of Fourth and Merchant Streets  
Ste. Genevieve  
Ste. Genevieve County  
Missouri

HABS No. MO-1109

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PHOTOGRAPHS

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, DC 20013-7127

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

Addendum to JACQUES DUBREUIL GUIBOURD HOUSE

HABS No. MO-1109

HABS  
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97-SAIGEN,  
9-

Location: Fourth and Merchant Streets, Ste. Genevieve,  
Ste. Genevieve County, Missouri

HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

The following information was recorded by Alexander Piaget and Charles van Ravenswaay at the time the photograph was taken:

Owned by one Mihiel in 1792. Bought by Guibourd in 1799. Earlier frame portion and the latter brick wing built to contain the kitchen. In the bedroom, the beamed ceiling and narrow built-in cupboards are interesting features.

PROJECT INFORMATION

The Piaget-van Ravenswaay Survey consists of a number of photographs, primarily of sites and structures in Missouri, which were taken before 1938 by Alexander Piaget and after that by Paul Piaget, both in conjunction with Charles van Ravenswaay. Photographs of buildings were incorporated into the HABS collection in 1985 by Laura Rupp and in 1986 by Deborah Fulton, HABS historians. A master list is available in the ~~SAIGEN~~ records for MO-1800.

Guibourd-Valle House

Addendum to  
Jacques Dubreuil Guibourd House  
North Fourth and Merchant Streets  
Ste. Genevieve  
Ste. Genevieve County  
Missouri

HABS No. MO-1109

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WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, DC 20013-7127

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

GUIBOURD-VALLE HOUSE

HABS  
MO,  
97-SAIGEN.

Location: N. Fourth and Merchant Streets, Ste. Genevieve, 9-  
Ste. Genevieve County, Missouri 63670

Present Owner: Foundation for Restoration of Ste. Genevieve

Present Use: Historic house museum open to the public

Significance: This house is a large and well preserved example of the French colonial architectural tradition. Its walls are constructed of closely spaced, hewn vertical logs (poteaux sur sole) and the roof is supported by elaborate trusses, one of the most impressive examples of this characteristic feature in Ste. Genevieve.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of Erection: 1806. Jacques Guibourd acquired this lot in 1799. It was empty at this time so it is likely that he built the house in 1806 when he and his wife sold their former residence (to Joshua Penneman, Deeds vol. 1, page 49). Dendrochronological analysis confirms the date.
2. Original and subsequent owners: Legal description: All of the lot in the southeast corner of block number 24 in Ste. Genevieve beginning at a point in the west line of Fourth Street at the southeast corner of a lot owned by Josephine Ziegler, then west along the south line of the Zeigler lot 140 feet to a point for a corner in the east line of a lot now owned by Mrs. Gottlieb Rehm, then south along the east line of the Rehm lot 94 feet to the north line of Merchant Street then east along with the north line of Merchant Street 140 feet to the west line of Fourth Street, then north along Fourth Street 92'2" to the place of beginning.  
Chain of title:
  - a. June 15, 1799. Land concession number 35 to Jacques Guibourd for this lot.
  - b. May 6, 1844, by partition deed from Eugene Guibourd, and Therese, Omar Guibourd, Jules Guibourd; sons and heirs of Jacques Guibourd and Ursula, his wife to Omar and Jules Guibourd, South 1/2 survey 183 to Eugene Guibourd, north 1/2 survey 183. Deed book F, page 118.
  - c. April 1, 1859, by general warranty deed from Francois Omar and Jules Guibourd to Eugene Guibourd, south 1/2 survey 183, block 24; heirs of Eugene Guibourd: Louis Guibourd, Victorine

- Guibourd, August Guibourd, Felix Guibourd. Deed book M, page 516.
- d. January 5, 1880, by general warranty deed from Louis Guibourd, and Victorine Guibourd to Felix Guibourd, 1/2 interest in survey 183. Deed book 27, page 594.
  - e. January 5, 1880, by general warranty deed from August Guibourd to Felix Guibourd, one-fourth interest in survey 183. Deed book 27, page 626.
  - f. December 27, 1882, by deed of trust from Felix Guibourd to Felix H. Janis and Firm of Harris and Janis, promissary note of \$1,500.00. Deed book 28, page 566.
  - g. February 16, 1885, by special warranty deed from Felix Guibourd to Victorine Guibourd for \$2,500.00, whole of block #24--subject to deed of trust extant on property. Deed book 37, page 153.
  - h. April 25, 1887, by release on deed of trust dating December 27, 1882 by William F. Cox, John L. Boverie, Francis J. Ziegler, James W. Braham, William F. Cox, administrator of Louis Ziegler estate, Charles C. Rozier, attorney of estate. Deed book 41, page 121.
  - i. June 4, 1887, release on deed of trust dated December 27, 1882. Deed book 41, page 156; June 21, 1887, release on deed of trust dated December 27, 1882. Deed book 41, page 167.
  - j. June 21, 1887, by deed of trust from Victorine Guibourd to George J. Bernays. Deed book 36, page 246.
  - k. January 20, 1888, by release from George J. Bernays to Victorine Guibourd. Deed book 41, page 368.
  - l. September 10, 1907, by general warranty deed from Louis Guibourd for the estate of Victorine Guibourd to Clovis G. Boyer for \$3,000.00. Deed book 68, page 468.
  - m. February 19, 1931, by will of Clovis G. Boyer dated March 14, 1929 to Edgar F. Boyer. Deed book 105, page 74.
  - n. June 24, 1931, by general warranty deed from Edgar F. and Nettie Boyer to Jules Felix Valle and Anne Marie Valle, his wife for \$5,500.00. Deed book 100, page 500.
  - o. January 17, 1973, by will of Anne Marie Valle dated August 3, 1968 to Foundation for Restoration of Ste. Genevieve.
3. Alterations and additions: Like others of its size, the house was altered in the early nineteenth century to conform to American tastes and now presents an American style gable roof. The house was restored and remodelled to its current form in the 1930s by the



Valles, who also acquired the period furnishings that are exhibited in the house.

B. Historical Context:

Jacques Guibourd Domingo came to Ste. Genevieve from Santo Domingo in the late eighteenth century became a prominent and wealthy citizen of the community. In 1800, he and Ursula Barbeau, who came from Prairie du Rocher just across the Mississippi River in Illinois, were married. This house was built for them in 1806 when they sold another property where they lived since their marriage.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This is a large example of vertical log construction on a stone foundation, what the French called "poteaux sur sole." Its plan, general form, and detail are characteristic of creole architecture.
2. Condition of fabric: good.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: One and one-half stories on an elevated cellar with high attic, L-shaped, front block, 51'-6 1/2" across the front by 44'-4" deep, rear wing, 14'8" by 25'-2".
2. Foundations: Random cut stone, 2' thick.
3. Walls: Vertical, hewn, white oak logs, mortised into a sill, infilled with bouzillage, plastered or sheathed with horizontal clapboards. Rear wing of brick.
4. Structural system, framing: Vertical log structure on a sill carrying a plate, hewn logs closely spaced, floor beams mortised into the sill and the plate. All visible structural members are hand-hewn, (except for the ceiling boards on the rear porch which are vertically sawn) despite the construction date which appears to have been sometime after the introduction of water-driven sawmills. The roof exhibits the king-post truss system and mortises designed to receive the lateral framing members of the original hip roof are still visible.
5. Porches: A typical French colonial gallery on the front and rear of the house probably originally continued around the entire house.

6. Chimneys: Three plus one in brick ell.
7. Openings: Principal entrances are just north of the center of both long sides and open into a deep, narrow passageway. Secondary entrances are at the south end of both long sides of the house as well as to rooms at the northwest of the house, probably added slightly later when that part of the plan was altered.
  - a. Doorways and doors: Several early nineteenth century six panel doors with original hardware survive. The front and rear doors are of the six panel type with a transom. An interesting batten door is preserved at the cellar entrance.
  - b. Windows and shutters: One original casement window survives, and is believed to be the only one of its type and age in Ste. Genevieve. Other windows have been replaced with double hung windows. Early solid panel shutters survive with iron hinges.
8. Roof:
  - a. Shape, covering: gable.
  - b. Cornice, eaves: No eave projection, boxed in plate at eave line of the porch.
  - c. Dormers: none.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans:
  - a. First floor: The original floor plan is difficult to decipher but at least one interior partition appears to be a later feature which was added in order to create an interior hallway sometime in the early nineteenth century. The present floor plan consists of three large rooms and an interior passage. One room addition joins the gallery at the northwest corner of the house.
  - b. Cellar: Exposed original stone foundation, modern concrete floor.
  - c. Attic: Simple open space, floored but otherwise unfinished.
2. Stairways: Steep winding stair to the attic from the rear gallery. Open ceilings with exposed beams and attic floor boards.

3. Flooring: 1" x 7" floor boards.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster walls--open ceilings with exposed 5" x 10" oak beams.
5. Openings: Panelled doors.
6. Decorative features and trim: Chair rails, mantelpieces, and built-in cupboards (some with original butterfly hinges) were probably added during remodeling in the early nineteenth century.
7. Hardware: Early hardware survives on doors and shutters, including box locks and iron strap hinges.
8. Mechanical equipment:
  - a. Modern heating, air conditioning, ventilation.
  - b. Lighting and plumbing are modern additions.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The house faces east on Fourth Street and is bound by Merchant Street on the south.
2. Historic landscape design: A 6'-6" high wall surrounds the grounds on three sides while a 9' high wall borders the north side. The present enclosed garden was created by Jules Felix Valle and his wife Anne Marie when they owned the home. Magnolia, linden, sweet gum and crab apple trees are on the premises.
3. Outbuildings: A garage/apartment is at the southwest corner of the lot near Merchant Street.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Bibliography:

1. Primary and unpublished sources: Deed records in the Ste. Genevieve County Clerk's Office, County Courthouse. Other records in the Ste. Genevieve Archives (SGA), collected on microfilm, Western Historical Manuscripts Collection, University of Missouri-Columbia.
2. Secondary and published sources:

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#### PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) team of the Rocky Mountain Regional Office, National Park Service, under the direction of Historical Architect Thomas G. Keohan. Documentation was carried out during the summer of 1985 at the HABS field office in Ste. Genevieve, Missouri, by project supervisor Osmund Overby (University of Missouri-Columbia), project architects James Q. Marsh (Hemet, California), William D. Cesaletti (Keaau, Hawaii), and Terance A. Gruenhagen (North Dakota State University), and project historian Claudia A. Barbero (University of Missouri-Columbia).

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January 17, 1987

ADDENDUM TO  
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Fourth and Merchant Streets  
Ste. Genevieve  
Ste. Genevieve County  
Missouri

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